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GRANTS PASS, OREGON.

W. C. T. U. COLUMN.

All matter for this column is supplied by the Josephine County Woman's Christian Temperance Union, Y. and L. T. L. Branches.

NOTICE.

The regular program meeting of Grants Pass W. C. T. U. will be held at the residence of H. L. Gilkey on Iowa street, Friday afternoon at 2:30 January 18.

Mrs. Gilkey, superintendent of the Department of Purity, has charge of the program and with the assistance of Mrs. Jennie Cheshire, an interesting program will be given.

Mrs. Bertha Courtney, County President of Umatilla county 1905-6, now residing in Grants Pass will furnish a paper upon the subject "Child Purity the Safe Guard of Society."

This subject is worthy of the attention and consideration of all and a full attendance of members and friends is desired. Come and enjoy our pleasant and instructive meeting.

Katella Howard, secretary.

Grants Pass W. C. T. U. held their program meeting in the parlors of the M. E. church January 4, as announced. Business session revealed

satisfactory work. Written reports were submitted by the superintendents who have furnished programs or accomplished other work in the Union. Worthy of especial mention, was the report of the treasurer, Mrs. Savage. Her receipts and disbursements show something done and the neat sum of \$10 yet in the treasury. Names, as chosen by leaders in membership contest, were read and limit of time for contest made May 30, 1907, when the "defeated side can treat to strawberries." Drinking fountain committee reported having met at Mrs. Aments and agreed upon plan of work to be entered upon in February. Active work was entered into by the superintendents of Legislative Department.

Mrs. Berry, superintendent of "Purity in Literature and Art" department was introduced and the program rendered was as follows:

Song—"All Round the World" by members of quartette.

Select Reading, by Mrs. Cowdrey.

Recitation—"The Red Cradle" Mrs. Engles in her pleasing manner, as usual, recited this which was appreciated by all present. Miss Lamar played the accompaniment on the piano.

Paper read in part by Mrs. Berry as follows:

"Purity in Literature and Art." The germ thought of this department is "The Inner Mission"—the Bible as the highest expression of Literature. Christ in Art now rules the whole kingdom of Art Learning. Song, Drama and Theology, all have conspired to glorify the name of Jesus who made possible the coming of the Holy Spirit. We seek the elevation of the press. Scrutinize the literature on newstands, railroads and steamboats, library shelves, in mail matter, bill posters, shows, exhibitions, art galleries.

Our methods are to appeal to congress, legislatures, councils, magistrates and courts for the enforcement of existing and creation of better laws; also the use of lectures and literature to arouse public sentiment. Abraham Lincoln said: "Public sentiment is everything. With public sentiment nothing can fail; without it nothing can succeed." Consequently, he who molds public sentiment goes deeper than he who enacts statutes or pronounces decisions. He makes statutes and decisions possible or impossible to be executed. The success of the purity and temperance reform lies in the strengthening of the will. We place purity of thought and all the good gifts of our Creator, the fruits, the grains, and water, in the place of these things in a decayed state, which is alcohol. The deadliest foe we have to face is desire for impurity or intemperance, which is appetite. "The power to believe in the highest and best is not primarily intellectual, but moral, and is a preparation to believe in God."

Ideas are as contagious as disease and may be spread as surely. Get everyone to be a lover of good literature and art, and you lift the whole race. "Our thoughts are the invisible influences which give its complexion to our life, even as the insect is colored by the leaf on which it feeds." "The highest form of literature and art is that devoted to the best interests of the people which should become the most noble, vital and crowning happiness of human life." If the imagination is a part of divine life, then the individual and the national life should be intelligent and ideal. Education means as much suppression as it does cultivation, uprooting as well as planting. It is said that degenerate literature is the procuring cause for the increase in crime among the youth and children of our land. It is for us to decide whether this is to continue. Each member of society is responsible. Then the question that faces us is, "Shall we each help to raise the standard of purity?" The literature we read, the class of art we patronize, leave an impression for good or evil upon each person with whom we come in contact. We are weak or strong, foolish or wise, corrupt or righteous, just in proportion as we are controlled by Bible principles.

The Bible is a storehouse of religious instruction and a library of literary masterpieces.

RESOLUTION OF THE NATIONAL W. C. T. U.

We stand for implicit obedience to the divine principle of purity, believing the command, "Keep thyself pure" to be equally binding upon man and woman. We appeal to all people who love righteousness to stand with us in the effort to secure better laws in the interest of purity.

HATTIE L. CALVERT,
Press Supt. Grants Pass W. C. T. U.

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